

239. The device according to claim 155 wherein one of the focusing objective lenses can be positioned by an adjusting element for compensation of an offset of the focuses of said focusing objective lenses.

240. The device according to claim 239 wherein the adjusting element is piezoelectrically driven.

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110 241. The device according to claim 120 wherein said pinhole aperture has a diameter of ≤ 30 micrometer.

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59 242. The device according to claim 119 wherein said pinhole aperture has a diameter of ≤ 30 micrometer.

REMARKS

Claims 119-242 are presented for consideration.

Claims 119-138 stand allowed. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the timely indication of allowable subject matter.

The specification is amended, hereby, to include a brief description of the drawings, as required by the Office Action.

As required by the Office Action, a Sequence Listing is submitted, concurrently, herewith, and the specification is amended, accordingly.

Claim 221 is amended, hereby, to delete subject matter preceded by "preferably," which is made the subject matter of new dependent claim 242. Accordingly, containing subject matter of an allowed claim, claim 242 is allowable. A marked up copy of amended claim 221 is attached, hereto.

New claims 139-241 all depend, directly or indirectly, on the allowed claims. Thus, being narrower than the allowed claims, claims 139-241 are, also, allowable over the prior art.

Present claims claims139 and 241 contain subject matter of claim 121, as originally submitted, made dependent on claim 120. Claims 140-156 correspond to claims 122-138 made dependent on claim 120.

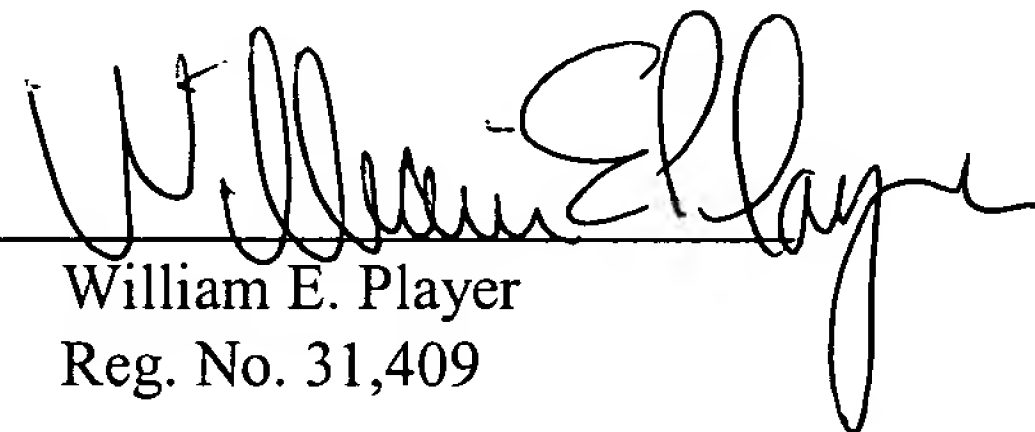
Present claims 157-240 contain subject matter of canceled claims. More precisely, present claims claims157, 195, 233, and 237 contain subject matter of claim 96. Present claims lairs 158, 196, 234, and 248 contain subject matter found in claim 97. Present claims 159, 160, 197, 198, 235, 236, 239, and 240 contain subject matter found in claim 98. Present claims 161, 162, 199, and 200 contain subject matter found in claim 100 (omitting the prefocusing appliance, the dichroic mirror, and the additional objective lens, which are found in claim 128). Present claims 145 and 201 contain subject matter found in claim 101. Present claims 146 and 202 contain subject matter found in claim 102. Present claims 147 and 203 contain subject matter found in claim 103. Present claims 148 and 204 contain subject matter found in claim 104. Present claims 149 and 205 contain subject matter found in claim 105. Present claims 150 and 206 contain subject matter found in claim 106. Present claims 151 and 207 contain subject matter found in claim 108. Present claims 151-154 and 208-210 contain subject matter found in claim 109. Present claims 155-157 and 211-213 contain subject matter found in claim 110. Present claims 158-160 and 214-216 contain subject matter found in claim 111. Present claims 161 and 217 contain subject matter found in claim 112. Present claims 180 and 218 contain subject matter found in claim 113. Present claims 181-184 and 219-222 contain

subject matter found in claim 114. Present claims 185-188 and 223-226 contain subject matter found in claim 115. Present claims 189, 190, 227, and 228 contain subject matter found in claim 116. Present claims 191, 192, 229, and 230 contain subject matter found in claim 117. Present claims 193, 194, 231, and 232 contain subject matter found in claim 118. Present claims 191, 192, 229, and 230 contain subject matter found in claim 117. Present claims 193, 194, 231, and 232 contain subject matter found in claim 118. Present claims 191, 192, 229, and 230 contain subject matter found in claim 117. Present claims 193, 194, 231, and 232 contain subject matter found in claim 118.

Favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED UP VERSION OF AMENDMENTS

Figure 28a shows the interaction of a DNA oligonucleotide having the sequence M13/pUC (-21) primer (5'-TGACCGGCAGCAAAATGT-3') (SEQ ID NO: 1) with a viral single-strand DNA of bacteriophage M13 which contains the corresponding complementary sequence. The oligonucleotide is labeled with Bodipy (Molecular Probes) at the 5'-C₆ position. The course of the association reaction with time was measured according to the invention in solution at 40°C. The solution contained 50 nM of oligonucleotide, 50 nM of M13mp18 (+) DNA in 10 nM tris buffer, pH 7.5, and 0.18 M sodium chloride. The variation of the successive autocorrelation functions reveals the kinetics of association. Autocorrelation was determined after 0, 0.5, 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, 128, 192, and 256 minutes. The diffusion time of the free primer is 0.17 ms, and 2.9 ms when complex-bound. Figure 29 shows the course of the association as experimentally revealed as % fraction of the primer in the associated complex. A reassociation rate of 0.07 min⁻¹ results.

121 (amended). The device according to claim 119 wherein said pinhole aperture has a diameter of ≤ 100 micrometer [, preferably of ≤ 20 to 30 micrometer].

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